

30.10.89; *Heliothis armigera* Hb. Dungeness, 23.10.89, Greatstone 25 and 26.9.89 and 22.10.89; *Deltote bankiana* Fab. male, Greatstone, 7.7.89.

The record of *M. l-album* is of interest as it is one of four individuals that I have heard of being taken in the Dungeness area during 1989. As far as I am aware, there were only two Kent records prior to this year (Dungeness 1934 and Dymchurch 1988); the spate of records in 1989 possibly suggests an easterly spread of range from the species' south coast breeding sites. This theory has some support from the number of recent records from coastal areas in East Sussex.— S.P. CLANCY, Delhi Cottage, Dungeness, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 9NE.

Presumed occurrence of late broods in Lepidoptera in 1989

I read with interest the recent notes by E.G. Smith (*antea* 101: 36) and David Young (*antea* 101: 197) on the possibility of a second brood in the pyralid *Cynaeda dentalis* D. & S., as this species certainly produced a second brood at Dungeness, Kent, in 1989 with specimens, a majority of them fresh but smaller in size than normal first-brood specimens, occurring on most nights between 4th and 24th September after a period of nearly two months without an adult being seen in the Dungeness area.

Several other species of lepidoptera, of which no reference could be found to a second brood in the literature or mentioned only as being of very irregular or occasional occurrence, also produced specimens of an apparently late brood in S.E. Kent. They invariably involved fresh specimens being taken after the last worn specimens of first brood had long since expired. It should also be noted that many of the first broods were earlier than usual in the exceptionally mild conditions of spring/early summer 1989.

Late species included *Pedasia contaminella* Hübn. (13.9 - 26.9); *Oncocera semirubella* Scop. (3.9); *Pyralis farinalis* L. (23.9); *Euproctis similis* Fues. (23.9 - 11.10); *Tyria jacobaeae* L. (31.10); *Agrotis exclamationis* L. (19.8 - 13.10); *Ourapteryx sambucaria* L. (18.10 - 30.10); *Ceramica pisi* L. (19.8 - 21.8); *Mythimna comma* L. (30.9); and *Mythimna favicolor* Barr. (17.8). (Note: *favicolor* is not known to breed at Dungeness, but this and other salt-marsh species turn up from time to time.)

Whilst it may be argued that the odd retarded individual may occur after the usual emergence time, these records mostly refer to a number of individuals, often small specimens, occurring in the main two to three months after the earlier brood. It would be interesting to learn how frequent and widespread additional broods were. I understand, for example, that late specimens of *dentalis*, *semirubella* and *sambucaria* occurred in Sussex and Dorset (M. Parsons), and *similis* produced a second brood in Somerset (J.C. Lidgate).— S.P. CLANCY, Delhi Cottage, Dungeness, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 9NE.